

serves as one of the United States Olympic Committee's three national training centers. The small town in Upstate New York continues to host international sporting events, as well as some 2.2 million tourists every year.

I encourage Members to support the resolution recognizing Lake Placid's historic place in Olympic history and encouraging the USOC to select this idyllic town for future bids in the Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games so long as they are not in competition with an applicant from the State of California.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. PENCE asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong and unqualified support of H. Res. 521, no Indiana exceptions, at least not today.

I congratulate Representative GILLIBRAND, as my colleague from California did, for this important resolution.

For close to a century, Lake Placid has been central to America's participation and achievements in international sports. It's the only site in North America to have hosted more than one Winter Olympics, both in 1932 and in 1980.

Moreover, in 1980, and if you haven't seen the movie, it was the site of one of America's greatest moments, when the U.S. national hockey team defeated the heavily favored Soviet Union. Walt Disney films recently created an extraordinary motion picture remembering that miracle on ice.

It was not only a victory for one hockey team over another, but for millions it symbolized the triumph of freedom over tyranny and seemed to be a part of setting into motion in 1980 what we would see with the collapse of Soviet communism in 1991. It forced you out of that, so in a very real sense, Lake Placid is important in the history of freedom as well as in the history of sport. Indeed, countless Americans actually remember where we were in that glorious moment.

Lake Placid's contributions to international sports continue to this very day. It's the home of one of the U.S. Olympic Committee's three national training centers and regularly hosts international sports competitions, bringing together athletes from across the globe to celebrate the excellence of sports.

□ 1330

Perhaps above all, Mr. Speaker, Lake Placid is an example of what a society can accomplish. This small village in New York with a population of less than 2,700 not only is a venue for grand-scale sporting events but also welcomes over 2 million visitors every year. This resolution recognizes Lake Placid's place in Olympic history, en-

courages Americans to visit that village's state-of-the-art Olympic facilities, and further encourages the U.S. Olympic Committee to select Lake Placid to represent the United States in the future for the Olympic or Paralympic games.

I commend my distinguished colleague from New York again, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, and Mr. McHUGH, for introducing this important resolution. I urge its adoption.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the distinguished gentlelady from New York (Mrs. GILLIBRAND).

Mrs. GILLIBRAND. Mr. Speaker, I've offered H. Res. 521 to celebrate Lake Placid's prominent place in Olympic history. This year marks the 75th anniversary of the 1932 Olympic Games and the beginning of Lake Placid's storied history in American hearts and minds.

In the midst of a worldwide depression, 252 athletes from 17 countries participated in the 1932 Winter Olympic Games held at Lake Placid. Franklin Delano Roosevelt, whose home is just a few hours south of Lake Placid in Dutchess County, officially opened the third ever Winter Olympic Games and the first one ever held in the Western Hemisphere.

Despite fierce competition from around the world, Lake Placid was once again chosen to host the Winter Olympic Games 48 years later, in 1980. This time, 1,072 athletes from 37 nations participated in the Games, and the question, "Do you believe in miracles?" forever became ingrained in the American consciousness. The American hockey team's victory over the Soviet Union permanently linked Lake Placid with one of the greatest triumphs, and prideful moments, in American sports history, with the "Miracle on Ice."

Lake Placid, a small village in the Adirondacks, is the only location in North America to have hosted the Winter Olympic Games more than once. Their success is phenomenal, when one considers that fewer than 2,700 residents live in the village.

I'm so incredibly fortunate to represent the citizens of Lake Placid and Essex County. Every year, Mayor Jamie Rogers and the villagers of Lake Placid welcome over 2.2 million visitors from all 50 States and countries all over the world. Lake Placid has been one of my favorite vacation places since I was a child, and I still enjoy taking my son there every year.

I strongly encourage all Americans to visit the state-of-the-art Olympic facilities in Essex County. The New York State Olympic Regional Development Authority, or ORDA, operates the various venues used in the 1932 and 1980 Olympic Games. Athletes from around the world come to Lake Placid to train and compete at these facilities, in addition to sports enthusiasts, young and old.

In addition, Lake Placid is the home of one of three U.S. Olympic Committee's national training centers, an

honor that allows upstate New York to mold the next generation of gold medal winners. The facilities at Lake Placid allow every American to step into the shoes of a professional athlete. It's thrilling to skate at the Herb Brooks Arena where the miracle on ice took place, or skate at the Olympic Speed Skating Oval where America's speed skater, Eric Heiden, won an unprecedented five gold medals in 1980.

Visitors can try out the ski-jumping complex or sharpen their bobsled and luge skills. The beautiful Adirondack Mountains offer cross-country or alpine skiing on Whiteface Mountain, one of the top resorts in all the Nation, all with spectacular pristine views.

Lake Placid admirably hosted the Olympic games twice in the past. I hope the U.S. Olympic Committee will consider having Lake Placid represent the United States in a future bid for the Winter Olympic Games.

I congratulate the Village of Lake Placid as they celebrate the 75th anniversary of the 1932 Winter Olympic Games. I thank everyone in the House of Representatives for supporting this resolution that honors Lake Placid's continued distinguished place in American Olympic history.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join the gentlelady from New York, Ms. GILLIBRAND, in support of H. Res. 521, Celebrating the 75th Anniversary of the 1932 Winter Olympic Games in Lake Placid, New York. This was truly a great moment in the history of sports. The beautiful Lake Placid-Wilmington region played host to athletes from around the globe and the event put the USA on the map of winter sports. The graceful Norwegian figure skater Sonja Henie won the second of her three gold medals. American speed skater Jack Shea won two gold medals, a first for Olympic competition. The United States won 12 medals in all, the most in the competition. Ever since, the spirit and beauty of competitive winter sports have remained on display in Lake Placid, which played host to the United States' memorable 1980 hockey victory over the Soviet Union, and in countless skiing, skating, sledding and other events. We can all be proud of Lake Placid's rich history.

Mr. PENCE. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SHERMAN. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 521.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

APPROVING RENEWAL OF IMPORT RESTRICTIONS CONTAINED IN THE BURMESE FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY ACT OF 2003

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the joint

resolution (H.J. Res. 44) approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the joint resolution.

The text of the joint resolution is as follows:

H.J. RES. 44

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. RENEWAL OF IMPORT RESTRICTIONS UNDER BURMESE FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY ACT OF 2003.

Congress approves the renewal of import restrictions contained in section 3(a)(1) of the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003.

SEC. 2. MERCHANDISE PROCESSING FEES.

Section 13031(j)(3)(A) of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985 (19 U.S.C. 58c(j)(3)(A)) is amended by striking "October 14, 2014" and inserting "October 21, 2014".

SEC. 3. TIME FOR PAYMENT OF CORPORATE ESTIMATED TAXES.

Subparagraph (B) of section 401(1) of the Tax Increase Prevention and Reconciliation Act of 2005 is amended by striking "114.50 percent" and inserting "114.75 percent".

SEC. 4. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.

This joint resolution shall be deemed to be a "renewal resolution" for purposes of section 9 of the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003.

SEC. 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This joint resolution and the amendments made by this joint resolution shall take effect on the date of the enactment of this joint resolution or July 26, 2007, whichever occurs first.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) and the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Michigan.

Mr. LEVIN. This bill will renew the import ban on products from Burma. In light of the overwhelming evidence that that country continues to blatantly disregard human rights and suppress democracy, it is important, indeed I would say vital, to continue to continue sanctions for another year.

The State Peace and Development Consul, as it is called, the controlling military junta, continues to have total disregard for its own people and their basic rights. The Burmese regime forcibly relocates civilians and has created a situation in which hundreds of thousands of people have been displaced or forced to flee to neighboring countries. That government continues to arrest, imprison, torture, and beat political activists and senior officials of the National League for Democracy. Over 1,100 political prisoners are imprisoned.

In May, the Government of Burma extended the detention of Aung San Suu Kyi, the leader of the National League for Democracy and a Nobel Peace Prize laureate. She has been detained for 11 of the last 17 years without charge or trial, and has spent the past 4 years in isolation.

In light of that country's continuing dismal record and its lack of any con-

crete steps to provide basic human rights to its citizens, I urge all of my colleagues to extend the ban on the import of Burmese products for another year. And also, very importantly, we hope the European Union, ASEAN, and other nations around the world will continue to work with the United States to increase pressure on the Burmese regime.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that Mr. PORTER, the gentleman from Nevada, be allowed to control the time on this side of the aisle.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Illinois?

There was no objection.

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I support extending import sanctions against Burma. Import sanctions have been in place for 4 years and, unfortunately, the Burmese military junta has shown no progress in improving its egregious human rights records. The actions of this regime in Burma are inexcusable.

The U.S. State Department's annual report on the effectiveness of the sanctions observes that Burma's already poor human rights record has only worsened. This regime continues to use forced labor, deny participation in democratic processes, and commit killings. Inexcusable.

Despite the regime's promised road map to democracy, no meaningful progress has been made to create a democratic system of governance. The regime continues to exclude pro-democracy groups from the national convention and to jail pro-democracy opposition leaders. Aung San Suu Kyi has been living under house arrest for 4 years. Therefore, I believe it is necessary and it is appropriate to continue these sanctions to send an important message to Burma leaders that their violation of basic human rights is inexcusable.

I generally approach unilateral trade sanctions with skepticism. Sanctions can have the unintended consequences of harming the people we seek to help. The State Department acknowledges that some opposition figures in Burma, academics, and exiled Burmese question whether U.S. unilateral sanctions have any chance of success without the participation of Burma's major trading partners, including ASEAN members China, India, and other regional countries. I do share their concerns. However, various aspects of the Burmese sanctions system mitigate my concerns to some degree.

The important sanctions will sunset after 1 year unless Congress votes under a privileged resolution to maintain their sanctions and are completely terminated in 2009. Furthermore, the administration is required to submit an annual report on whether the sanctions have effectively improved conditions in Burma and furthered U.S. national security, economic, and foreign

policy objectives, along with impact of sanctions on other U.S. national security, economic and foreign policy interests.

Moreover the law grants the President the authority to waive the sanctions if it is in the national interest and also directs the President to craft a multilateral sanctions regime to pressure Burma to improve its human rights.

If we are to be successful inducing change by the Government of Burma, sanctions must be multilateral. There have been high-level international discussions on Burma over the past year. In September 2006, the U.N. Security Council discussed Burma; in December of 2006 the U.N. General Assembly adopted a resolution expressing its grave concern over human rights violations in Burma and calling on the regime to take urgent measures to address these violations. Separately, the ASEAN countries called for the release of those placed under detention and for effective dialogue with all parties concerned. I hope these words will be followed by tangible actions. Continued efforts to build multilateral pressure on Burma are critical to my future support for these import sanctions. I urge support of H.J. Res. 44.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, it is now my privilege to yield such time as he may consume to the lead sponsor of this resolution, the chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Committee and someone who has taken a lead on human rights issues around this globe, Mr. LANTOS of California.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, let me first express my appreciation to my friend and colleague from Michigan, Congressman LEVIN, for his help in bringing this important legislation to the floor, and to the chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, CHARLIE RANGEL, for his great assistance and leadership.

Mr. Speaker, nearly two decades ago, Aung San Suu Kyi embarked on a personal journey that would parallel the terrible nightmare of her people, the people of Burma. That was the year in which she helped found the National League for Democracy, a movement to promote democratic change in her homeland. Her long and torturous journey has led her to both a Nobel Peace Prize and seemingly eternal incarceration.

Rather than cede to the widespread calls and massive protests for a free and fair election, a military junta seized and maintained power in Burma. The regime feared the power of one fearless voice for democracy, Aung San Suu Kyi.

In 1990, the military junta finally permitted a general election, which the National League for Democracy won handily. The military promptly nullified the results, preventing the daughter of the very general who negotiated Burma's independence from taking her rightful place as Prime Minister.

Since then, Mr. Speaker, Aung San Suu Kyi has been tossed back and forth in and out of prison and house arrest as though she were simply a pawn in the tumultuous and chaotic game being played by the corrupt fat cats running Burma. But like the people of her nation, she is in fact much more than a pawn; she is an ardent champion of freedom, an exemplary defender of democracy, and one of the strongest willed moral beacons on this planet.

She stands firmly in the tradition of Gandhi, Mandela, Martin Luther King, and all other voices of the oppressed. Those legendary figures eventually delivered their people to freedom, and we in this Congress aim to help Aung San Suu Kyi to do just that.

Inspired by her resolve and the resolve of the Burmese people, this Congress has been committed to their cause for many years. Today, we renew import sanctions aimed at forcing democratic change in Burma, which I can say categorically is one of the most repressive regimes on the planet.

America's tough sanctions against Burma, including an import ban, export sanctions, and arms embargo and financial sanctions, have spurred the civilized nations of the world to take similar actions against Burma. The European Union recently updated its own set of sanctions, though they need to be even tougher. The leading members of ASEAN, who for years went out of their way to defend Burma's horrendous behavior, are now exercising their significant diplomatic muscle to promote democratic change in Burma and to free Aung San Suu Kyi.

□ 1345

The United Nations has held its first ever Security Council debate on the security threat to the Asia Pacific region posed by the Burmese regime.

But too many other nations, India and China in particular, continue to prop up the government through shockingly direct, blatant deals, including arms trading with this cruel junta in Burma.

Just this past week, Mr. Speaker, the BBC reported that in any major hotel in Rangoon, and I quote, "Russian arms dealers, South Korean and French oilmen, Singaporean consultants and Chinese bankers are all mingling over cocktails with their Burmese counterparts."

Mr. Speaker, these despicable deals undermine the entire international effort to help the Burmese people. And so today, as we renew our import sanctions, we aim both to pressure directly the military junta in Burma, and to influence those in the international community who are currently asleep at the wheel of justice and human rights. Oppressive power can only be delegitimized when it is fully isolated.

Mr. Speaker, Aung San Suu Kyi remains imprisoned. So do the people of Burma. Even out of power and out of sight, she remains a powerful symbol and, therefore, a leader of the plight of

some 50 million people in her native land of Burma. We must do our part to carry her torch. And I urge all of my colleagues to vote today for these sanctions once again.

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the comments of my friends and colleagues across the aisle.

I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I want to add my admiration for the comments on both sides of the aisle, for the statement of the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. PORTER) and the very eloquent words of my colleague from California. I hope, as we proceed to pass this, that the words will be remembered, and that they will echo beyond Washington, D.C., through capitals everywhere, so others will join us in trying to help bring about the freedom that the vast majority of people of Burma truly desire.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution, H.J. Res. 44, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the joint resolution, as amended, was passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "Joint resolution approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRATULATING THE UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING COWGIRLS FOR WINNING THE WOMEN'S NATIONAL INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 384) congratulating the University of Wyoming Cowgirls for winning the Women's National Invitational Tournament for the first time and for their most successful season in school history.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 384

Whereas on March 31, 2007, the University of Wyoming Cowgirls defeated the University of Wisconsin Badgers by a score of 72-56 in the championship basketball game of the Women's National Invitation Tournament;

Whereas the victory of these 14 very accomplished young women and their coach, Joe Legerski, was witnessed by over 15,000 fans at the University of Wyoming's sold out Arena-Auditorium;

Whereas the Cowgirls won 21 games in their regular season and tied for second in the Mountain West Conference (MWC);

Whereas Jodi Bolerjack scored 16 points in the championship game and earned Third Team All-MWC honors;

Whereas Elisabeth Disen scored the last shot for the Cowgirls of the first half, giving the team a 39-26 lead;

Whereas Megan McGuffey scored back-to-back layups in the second half, totaling 10 points for the game, and received the MWC Newcomer of the Year honor;

Whereas Justyna Podziemski scored 16 points in the championship game, had 10 rebounds, and 8 assists;

Whereas Dominique Sisk scored 5 points, had 2 assists, and 7 rebounds for the Cowgirls;

Whereas Rebecca Vanderjagt scored 4 points and had 1 block during the championship game;

Whereas Aubrey Vandiver brought a strong end to the first half, shooting or assisting the last seven points;

Whereas Hanna Zavec scored 12 points and earned the award of the Women's National Invitation Tournament Most Valuable Player;

Whereas Amy Bolerjack, Mallory Cline, Annie Gorenstein, Angiah Harris, Gemma Koehler, and Megan Mordecai also contributed to the team's top season; and

Whereas these top athletes are also dedicated to academic achievement, and serve as the standard of excellence, scholarship, and sportsmanship for the entire Nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives congratulate the University of Wyoming women's basketball team for their championship victory in the 2007 National Invitational Tournament.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES) and the gentlewoman from Illinois (Mrs. BIGGERT) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Maryland.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may insert material relevant to House Resolution 384 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Maryland?

There was no objection.

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. SARBANES asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SARBANES. Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate the University of Wyoming Cowgirls for winning the 2007 Women's National Invitational Tournament basketball tournament.

On March 31, 2007, the University of Wyoming won the Women's NIT by defeating the University of Wisconsin Badgers 72-56. The Cowgirls won the title in front of the largest women's basketball audience in school history, with over 15,000 in attendance.

Wyoming had their most successful season in team history, winning 21 regular-season games and tying for second in the Mountain West Conference. Overall, the Cowgirls finished 27-9, besting the previous team record of 25 wins, a record which had stood for nearly 30 years. They also advanced deeper into postseason play than any Cowgirls basketball team before them.

I want to congratulate head coach Joe Legerski, athletic director Tom Berman, University of Wyoming president Tom Buchanan, and the student athletes who won the NIT title.